

**From:** Pat O'Brien  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Please rethink this settlement.

Gate's defense is that Microsoft has allowed every aspect of the computer industry to substantially improve at reduced prices for everything from software to hardware. Yet Gate's fails to mention that while everything else improves at reduced prices, Microsoft gets bigger, slower, less secure and more expensive with every upgrade. (And an upgrade isn't even a new product!) That tells me that while every other area of the industry is in healthy competition, Microsoft can increase their prices and behave tyrannical unaffected without real competition.

This settlement is a good 'deal' for Microsoft, and a bad one for the consumer...